

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview held on January 12, 2010. In response to the telephonic interview, the Applicants submit herein the following claim amendments. Claims 1, 36, 38, 46, 62, and 63 have been amended. Claims 27, 33-35, and 37 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-7, 9-23, 25, 45, 49, 52-53, and 60-61 were previously canceled. Support for amended claims 1, 46, and 63 can be found at least in now canceled claims 27, 33-35, and 37. Support for amended claim 62 can be found at least in claim 1 and in the originally filed specification on page 11, line 9 to page 12, line 4. Claims 36 and 38 have been amended to no longer depend from canceled claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful consideration of this application.

Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 8, 24, 26, 28-32, 36, 38-44, 46-48, 50-51, 54-59, and 62-66 are pending in the application with claims 54-59 withdrawn from consideration. Based on the following remarks, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections, and that they be withdrawn. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. The Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

In view of the above amendments, the Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in any patent application processing fees pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.17, including extension of time fees pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.17(a)-(d), associated with this communication and to credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

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Respectfully submitted,

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